

The Transportation System Plan (TSP) Update Task Force for the City of Junction City met on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 680 Greenwood Street, Junction City Oregon.

PRESENT WERE: City Councilor, Karen Leach (Chair); Planning Commission Member, Jeff Haag; Citizen Members, Alicia Beymer and Gary Crum; City Planner, Jordan Cogburn and; Secretary, Tere Andrews; Absent: Planning Commission Member, Jason Thiesfeld

OPEN MEETING

Chair K Leach opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA)

There were none.

II. REVIEW OF ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Planner Cogburn began a discussion of the Access Management Plan contained in the 2009 Highway 99 Refinement Plan.

The Committee discussed the suggestion that portions of the 2000 TSP could be removed and the suitable elements kept. Removal of portions of the Access Management Plan would be of benefit to the City as, in parts, quite prescriptive.

Committee Member Haag felt the need for bicycle lanes as proposed in the Refinement Plan, were overstated. It was noted the proposed bike lanes were part of Safe Routes to School and facilities to encourage more people to ride bicycles.

Committee Member Crum asked about access point spacing on Highway 99 (Ivy Street). The draft language stated “where feasible” access points should be shared or removed. The placement of on-street parking on either side of the State highway through the City of Sisters created a pedestrian friendly, vibrant business/retail area. Moving access points off of Highway 99/Ivy Street through Junction City was of concern as it could increase an already unfriendly pedestrian walkway as well as cause negative impacts to businesses located on Highway 99/Ivy Street. General consensus supported traffic calming methods to encourage increased accessibility to businesses along Ivy Street.

A discussion took place regarding the relationship between items in the appendix and the draft TSP. It was noted the appendix, including technical memos, was the research used to support the contents of the draft TSP. Policy was located in the draft TSP. Proposed development would be required to meet standards in the Municipal Code and policies of the TSP which was a part of the Comprehensive Plan. Many of the items included in the Project List in the TSP were from Open Houses held to solicit citizen input/ ideas for the future of transportation in Junction City.

Consensus: General consensus of the committee was that the prescriptive elements of the Highway 99 Refinement Plan, Access Management Plan should be removed.

The discussion moved on to traffic counts, perceived caps and access points. Concern was expressed regarding suggested access management in the draft. The wording was of importance to offer flexibility for property owners at the time of development in regard to access points. In addition committee members expressed their belief that the traffic count used for existing access points along Highway 99, south of Highway 36, were understated and inaccurate. The committee discussed shared access points and/or consolidation of access points, for future development. In recent years ODOT policies with regard to access points along State highways, including 99, had relaxed, currently a more cooperative approach with local governments was being taken. However past experience with ODOT left committee members uneasy.

Planner Cogburn asked the committee, how they would like to proceed with grant funds that would expire in June, 2015. He asked the committee if they wanted to use the remainder of the grant funds to have John Boskett of DKS, authors of the draft TSP, attend a meeting to review traffic counts and other concerns.

The discussion returned to the question of what should or should not be included in the appendix. Policy was not contained in the appendix but the information would, in committee member estimation, be used as reference. Viewpoints differed on what should be included in the appendix. The issue was should information that is inaccurate remain in the appendix. Another viewpoint was that the information had been included in the 2009 Highway 99 Refinement Plan; it was part of the record and therefore should remain as historical information.

ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Bring back TAZ information	Planner Cogburn	Next meeting

Invite John Bosket to future meeting	Planner Cogburn	No date set
Request map showing all existing access points of area south of Hwy 33 along Hwy 99	Planner Cogburn	Next meeting

III. NEXT STEPS

The next TSP Update Task Force meeting was set for Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 9:00am.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tere Andrews, Secretary